

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION Established 1939

September 2004 NEWSLETTER

President: Linda Arnold
Newsletter: Diana Patton
497 Stony Brook Dr.
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

September (sigh) Greetings!

Not that September isn't beautiful; it usually is. But how could it be September already! I know where the summer went; it was fabulous—but it went far too fast! Luckily we'll have a few more weeks of flower painting and then we can start on brilliant autumn trees, right? To enliven your September and give you an inspiring urge to create (in case you're in need of inspiration), please do come to RVAA's first meeting of the season, **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 7:30 pm**, at the Somerset County/Bridgewater Library. We are pleased to offer a **CHINESE INK AND WATERCOLOR** demonstration featuring artist **HSU DAN**. Professor Hsu will paint flowers, goldfish, insects, and, if time permits, a landscape.

Trained and experienced in the fields of Chinese: painting, architecture, interior design, and traditional garden design, Hsu's art exudes an extraordinary sense of perspective, color, and oneness with nature.

"Beautiful Capital, Beijing," his grand style landscape painting, has been on long-term display in the Beijing Room of the Great Hall of the People, Beijing, China. Hsu Dan is a member of the Artist's Association of China, the Architecture Society of China, and the Garden Design Society of China. His paintings have been exhibited throughout the United States, including the Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University. In April 2005, his landscapes will be displayed at the Dorothy Young Arts Center, Drew University.

For further information on Hsu Dan and examples of his work, please visit www.hsu-dan.com.

Raritan Valley Art Association has at least three shows lined up for you this year: November 1st (deliver Oct. 29) to December 10 a juried show at the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Gallery, chaired by Gay Billich; our annual Holiday Show in December at the Somerset County Library, chaired by Diana Patton; and a special show at the Bernardsville Public Library in March 2005, chaired by Mary Creasy. Surely these are the catalysts to inspired painting!

Our first show will be in the lovely display area of the SOMERSET COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION in the county administration building in Somerville, adjacent to the Somerset Hotel. You will see enclosed in this NEWSLETTER an insurance form to be returned to Sally de Barcza by October 8 (not postmarked), although delivery will be October 29th. Our chairwoman, Gay Billich, reports that this show is all different media. There is only room for approximately 17 to 20 paintings. Art work should not exceed 30" in width, including frame. If you have two paintings much smaller they can be double hung. Artwork must be wired and ready for hanging. Only original artwork may be exhibited. The Gallery Committee has the prerogative to

eliminate any presented work. The entry fee is \$20. Two checks are needed, one made out to RVAA for \$10.00 and one made out to SCC & HC for \$10., to be paid on **RECEIVING DAY OCTOBER 29th** at 2 pm. Interested buyers will contact the SCC & HC Office. The artist will be called and given the buyer's name and phone number to make the final arrangements, and when satisfied, will alert the SCC & HC that the buyer will pick up the artwork after the exhibition. The artist will forward a commission payment of 15% to SCC & HC. The exhibition insurance information from must be returned to Sally T. de Barcza no later than October 8th (not postmarked). Gay will need **TWO VOLUNTEERS for Receiving Day and also 2 for Art Pick-up Day**. Please call her at 732/805-0011 as soon as possible. The SCC & HC welcomes the display of group art exhibitions from established Somerset County organizations, as one of their missions is to benefit and promote as many local artists as possible. As well as sending the insurance form with title to Sally, please let Gay know you are entering, as well. The show comes down December 10th, with pick-up at 10 am.

Many of you remember longtime members of Raritan Valley Art Association Walter B. Mihalik and Beatrice Petix. Walt, who did lyrical, serene oils and acrylic landscapes (I own a small one) died on May 8th, and Beatrice, who did oils and pen and ink drawings, died August 2nd. Although they have not been members for several years (Walt lived in Toms River) both have won awards in our shows. Our sympathy and prayers go out to Walt's wife Mildred, and to Bea's husband Theodore.

Although she is not a member of RVAA, your editor must pass on some good news from Roberta Carter Clark. She was presented with the highest honor of the Transparent Watercolor Society of America (formerly Midwest Watercolor Society), that of Master Status. There are only 26 members in this elite group. Roberta wrote to tell me what a total surprise this was to her, and how happy she was to receive the tribute (the symbol of which is a shimmering crystal paperweight). Your editor knows some of you have studied with Roberta in workshops and most of you are familiar with her watercolors.

The 15th Anniversary Tewksbury Show is coming soon. Receiving Oct. 1 & 2, if you are interested in obtaining a prospectus, please phone Kathy Halsey 908/876-9343 or Anita Sawczuk 908/832-7746.

The Pingry School in Warren is currently looking for exhibitors for the Pingry Library. The gallery can hold about 12—20 pieces, depending on size. You are welcome to enter as a two-person show if you haven't enough for a solo show. Please contact Janet Koch at 908/647-5555, extension 1368 and mention that you are a member of the Raritan Valley Art Association and this was recommended to you by Linda Arnold and Diana Patton.

The Montgomery Center for the Arts, 1860 House, has an open juried exhibition with work due September 21. Please phone 609/921-3272 for a prospectus. Office hours are Tues-Fri, 10-3.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

C news for our first issue of this season! Please let me know **YOUR NEWS!**